



The Steamboat Creek Restoration Plan

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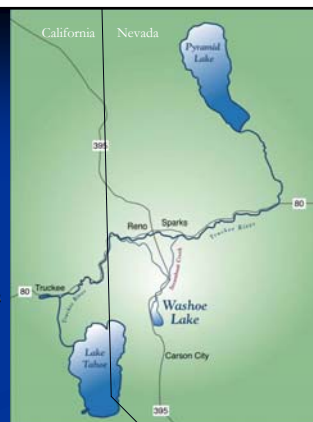


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Truckee River

- Flows from Lake Tahoe to Pyramid Lake
- Provides water supply for Reno – Sparks area
- Provides irrigation water
- Steamboat Creek enters the Truckee River at the mid-way point



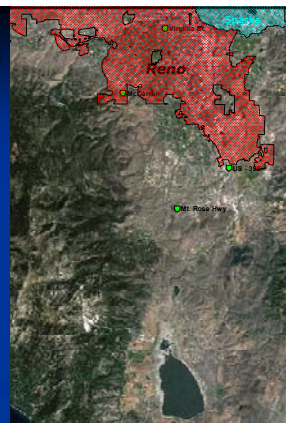
Steamboat Creek

- Drains approximately 200 square miles
- Heavily developed, 90% privately owned watershed
- Flows 18 miles from Washoe Lake to the Truckee River
- 303(d) listed creek



Why Collaborate?

- Existing collaborations
 - Land use planning
 - Water planning
 - Drinking water and wastewater treatment
- Proven effective locally
- Cost-efficient



The Steamboat Creek Project: Participants

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| ■ Washoe-Storey Conservation District | ■ Regional Water Planning Commission |
| ■ Cities of Reno and Sparks | ■ Local Homeowners' Associations |
| ■ Washoe and Storey County | ■ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers |
| ■ U.S. Bureau of Reclamation | ■ Nevada Division of Environmental Protection |
| ■ Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe | |
| ■ and many others... | |

Participation by Local Government

- Existing collaborative structure in place
- Invited to participate in Steamboat Creek Steering Committee
- Synergy between otherwise separate projects

Participation by Local Citizens

- Local Advisory Boards
- Homeowners' Associations
- Public Steering Committee meetings
- Public outreach
- Steamboat Creek Conference
- Volunteer Workdays



The Steamboat Creek Project: Goals



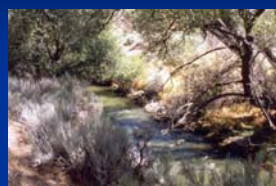
- Improve water quality
- Improve private and public property
- Enhance wildlife habitat
- Understand the watershed

The Steamboat Creek Project: Goals

- A functional restoration plan
 - Respect property rights
 - Compatible with existing plans



The Steamboat Creek Project: Goals



- Create a functional stream corridor
 - Minimize flood impacts
 - Minimize water quality concerns

The Steamboat Creek Project: History

- Steamboat Creek Restoration Plan (1995-1996)
 - Funded by Regional Water Planning Commission and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
 - Used collaborative process
 - Overall assessment of creek condition
 - Periodically updated (last update March, 2000)
- Steamboat Creek Steering Committee
 - Multi-jurisdictional workgroup that brings stakeholders together

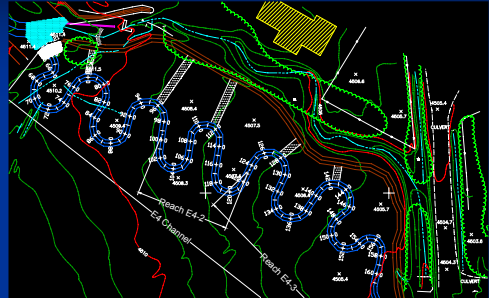
The Steamboat Creek Steering Committee

- Identifies for the watershed
 - Goals
 - Needs
 - Priorities
- Keeps stakeholders informed
 - Ongoing projects
 - Research
 - Other opportunities

Current Concerns: Noxious Weeds



Current Concerns: Permitting



Current Concerns: Monitoring



The Steamboat Creek Project: Funding Sources

- U.S. E.P.A. Section 319(h) of Clean Water Act
- Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources
- Regional Water Planning Commission
 - City of Reno
 - City of Sparks
 - Washoe County
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Carson Truckee Water Conservancy District

Technical Challenges

- Mercury Contamination
 - Remnants of mining mills around Washoe Lake
 - Toxicity concerns
 - Chemistry not yet clearly understood
- Pyramid Lake watershed
 - Terminal lake with no outlet
 - Cultural and economic value

Accomplishments

- Steamboat Creek Restoration Plan
- Washoe County Stream Buffer Ordinance
- Bank Stabilization project on upper creek
 - Completed in 2000
 - Expanding upstream and downstream
- Erosion and sediment control reviews
- Collaborative working relationship

Andrew Lane Bank Stabilization



Andrew Lane Bank Stabilization



Future Plans

- Potential projects identified
 - Restoration projects
 - Possible collaborations
 - Research needs
- Expanding watershed-based approach
 - Truckee River Watershed Protection Plan